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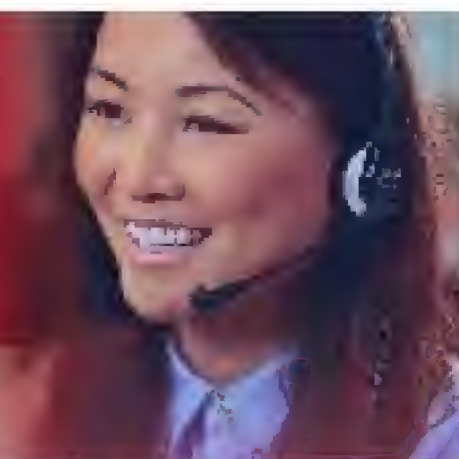
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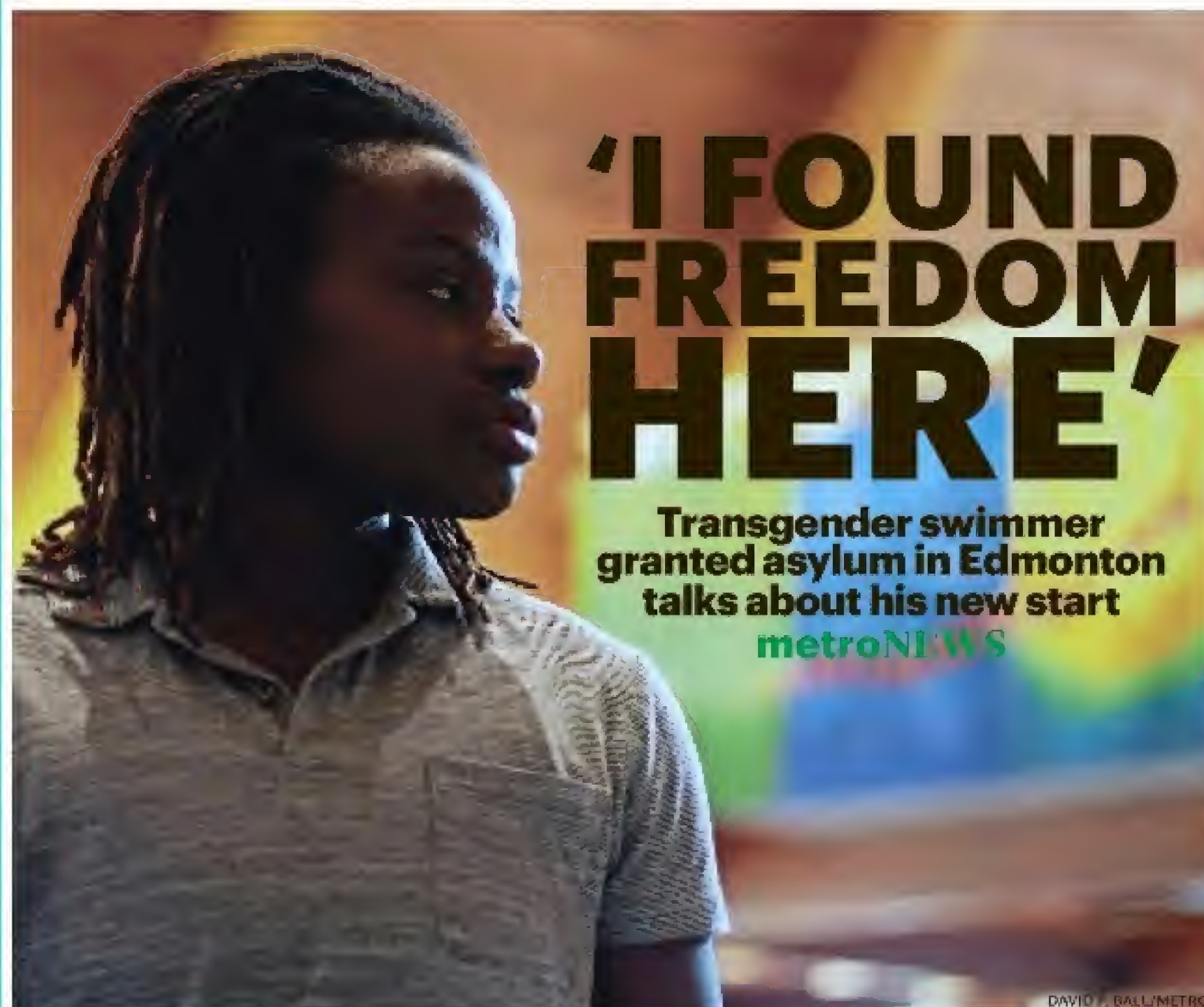
FOCUS ON FAMINE

'It's very shameful that people are dying of hunger in 2017.'

- Hassan Ibrahim
metroNEWS

Your essential daily news | TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2017

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'I FOUND FREEDOM HERE'

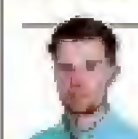
Transgender swimmer granted asylum in Edmonton talks about his new start
metroNEWS

DAVID J. BALL/METRO

Family of man killed speaks out on speed limits

66 STREET-FORT ROAD

Niece of 'gentle giant' urges drivers to slow down



Jeremy Simes
Metro | Edmonton

The niece of an Edmonton man killed in a car crash Sunday is urging drivers to slow down and follow the speed limit.

On Monday, family members identified Rodney Farquharson as the 58-year-old man who was killed after three vehicles were involved in a collision near 66 Street and Fort Road Sunday morning. Investigators believe speed was a factor in the crash, according to police.

"We're still in shock and trying to come to terms with everything," said Farquharson's niece Chasity Okimow. "People need to be smart enough to respect the speed limits. It's just senseless."

Okimow said Farquharson was

a kind man who loved his family.

"He was a gentle giant," she said. "I don't think I ever saw him angry."

A 39-year-old man was driving a Honda Accord southbound in the centre lane of 66 Street at Fort Road when he allegedly switched lanes and rear-ended Farquharson's car, ultimately killing him.

The driver of the Accord then veered into the northbound lane, striking an SUV which contained an eight-year-old girl and a 55-year-old woman, both of whom sustained minor injuries.



Rodney Farquharson
SUBMITTED

Okimow said the father of the injured girl reached out to her, offering his condolences. "The investigating officer told us that if my uncle wasn't impacted first, it could have been devastating for the other family,"

she said. "We suffered a loss and they didn't. It gives us comfort knowing the father took the time, and we're grateful his daughter is OK."

Join the Conversation



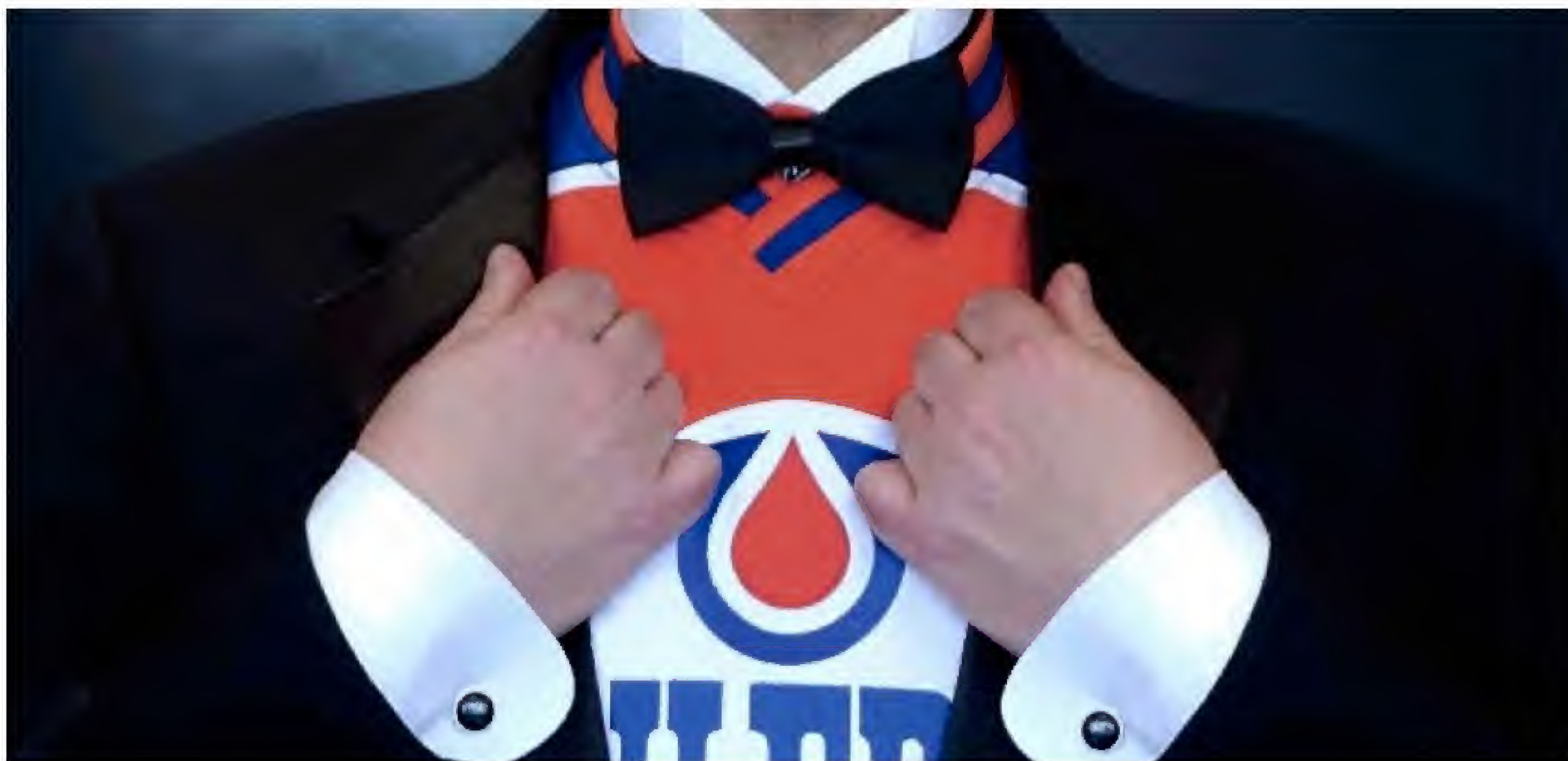
Let's Talk Park & Ride

The City of Edmonton is developing a strategy that will help identify where and how we provide new Park and Ride services. We want to hear your thoughts about what would make park and ride better and what we should consider for park and ride in the future.

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Edmonton



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Edmonton's rooftop phone booth, located at 101A Avenue and 100A Street, is scheduled to be removed. JEREMY SIMES/METRO

ASYLUM

Advocate asks if city ready for refugees



David P. Ball
Metro | Edmonton

Is Edmonton ready for what some predict could be a "flood" of asylum seekers from Montana coming with the spring thaw?

That's the question on the mind of Ingrid Flores, founder of Edmonton's Latin American Community Engagement Network, who told Metro the organization recently requested a meeting with Mayor Don Iveson.

"The routes to get into the country are going to become more passable," Flores said. "We're going to start hearing more stories. There will be a flood of people going to come."

"And we don't know yet what Trump is going to do, but a lot of people are scared at this stage.... How prepared is our city?"

Despite Edmonton's distance from the border, the possibility that Alberta could see an influx of asylum seekers like those entering Manitoba, Quebec and B.C. isn't just being discussed in the city's Latino community, either.

Edmonton's mayor could not be reached for comment Monday, but Calgary's Naheed Nenshi earlier expressed caution about "sanctuary city" declarations if they're mere "symbolism for the sake of symbolism," since immigration, health and education fall outside city authority.

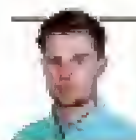
Flores' hope is that Edmonton at least reviews services available, co-ordinates with other levels of government and advocates if it finds gaps.

"The question always goes back to what can a municipality do?" Flores asked. "Is the city government having this conversation ... to make sure they can provide services to these families that need to start all over?"

Case closed on mystery of the rooftop phone booth

CURIOSITIES

Endless stream of questions put to rest as origin revealed



Jeremy Simes
Metro | Edmonton

Turns out Edmonton's sky-high phone booth isn't for Superman, but onlookers still had plenty of questions about a mysterious

pay phone that appeared on the roof of a downtown office building this week.

"It's weird," said Lisa Scott, who stopped Monday morning to gaze up at the booth, perched three storeys high on the Phipps-McKinnon building's rooftop terrace at 101A Avenue and 100A Street.

"Who would go up to the roof to use a phone booth?"

Edmonton police Sgt. David Jones was the first to draw attention to the box Friday morning. He tweeted a photo of the booth, just visible from street level, and

sparked an online discussion about how the booth had got there — and why.

"I just happened to be looking up at the right time and noticed it," Jones said. "I thought, 'That's kind of unusual and interesting.'"

Others strolling through downtown also had questions.

"So is it a phone booth that's open to the public?" asked Jacob Johnson, walking by with a tray of coffees. "Can someone use it?"

Everyone's queries were answered Monday. No, you can't use it, and it will be removed.



Sgt. David Jones. METRO

Turns out employees at Accenture — a company located on the third floor in the building — used the booth inside until moving it outdoors to accommodate renovations, according to a spokesperson with Canapen Group, which manages the building.

Upon learning why the phone booth was on a roof, Jones laughed.

"Nothing super exciting," he surmised. "But anytime something out of the ordinary happens, it's always an interesting piece, I think."

It spurred a fun conversation throughout the city, he added.

"Regardless of the outcome, it's something as the city we can chat about," he said. "I like that."

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Refugee's faith in the future

COURAGE

Setbacks, hard work don't dim athlete's dreams



David P. Ball
Metro | Edmonton

Adebayo Katiiti continues to chase his athletic dreams in Edmonton.

The Ugandan swimmer — granted asylum in Canada four months ago after getting death threats in his home country for being transgender — sat down with Metro to describe life in the city nearly eight months after staying on after an international swim competition.

"Life's not easy here," the 22-year-old admitted. "You have to work very hard, and it's not easy to find work.... But I have so many people who are there for me, supporting me."

He works as a restaurant dishwasher, but hopes to find a job as a fitness instructor, coach or anything sports-related — his passion.

Since arriving, he's co-founded an Edmonton LGBTQ soccer team, teaches autistic kids to swim, and plays soccer in a local recreational league team.

But not everyone is so accepting in Canada. Last Wednesday, after working out at Commonwealth pool, a "respectable-looking man" in his 50s accosted him on an otherwise empty LKT car, yelling at him for his skin colour.

"He said, 'Go back to your

country,'" Katiiti recounted. "Then he poked me in the chest and kept poking me hard, saying 'Are you a man or a woman? F—k! You are like monkeys.'"

"I was so scared. But I just kept calm.... After I found freedom here, and something like this happens, it felt really bad and really pulled me back."

But after the troubling incident — on what was his second time on the LKT — he went to St. Paul's United Church for support.

The congregation has offered Katiiti a lifeline in Edmonton. He sings in the choir, reads in services, and the minister has even hosted him at her house during his search for housing. (He finally moved into a basement suite on March 1).

Finding acceptance in a faith community in Canada was an unexpected blessing, he said, particularly after seeing extreme religious-based persecution first-hand in Uganda.

"I used to go to church every Sunday, but they chased me out," he revealed. "They preached every week against homosexuality: an American Evangelical church goes to Uganda to support and fund those churches."

"So I never expected I'd ever find a church where I could worship and be who I am — to be a trans man with faith, after everything I've been through. I think is one of my biggest achievements."

As a refugee, being separated and unable to see his friends back home is especially painful. They're still risking their lives every day, Katiiti said, and just recently one of his closest



Eight months after landing in Edmonton, refugee swimmer Adebayo Katiiti talks about his quest to make an athletic 'dream come true.' DAVID P. BALL/METRO

est friends was murdered by a group of men — "stoned to death," he said.

And like many refugees, his memories of oppression haven't been left behind. One reminder, he said, is an aching knee from police beating his bare legs after his arrest during a Ugandan Pride Parade last year.

Katiiti sang for Metro a hymn he wrote, which his

choir will perform on Easter morning: "I'm free, I'm free, I'm free," crooned the tenor. "Canada took my burdens away."

Sports is like medicine to me. When you feel like giving up, you just do more.
Adebayo Katiiti

+ WORLD OUT GAMES FUNDRAISER

'Dream come true' chance for trans swimmer

It was sports that allowed Katiiti to find refuge in Canada.

But for him, athletics is more: "Sports are my life," he explains, "and competing freely without gender discrimination is something I've dreamed about since I started playing sports."

That's why he's now fundraising to compete in the World Out Games, from

May 26 to June 4 in Miami. Not only is the international LGBTQ competition a "dream come true" for him — but it's also the only chance to see his former Ugandan teammates again. "I can't wait to have the chance to see them again," he said.

Find out more about Katiiti's online fundraiser on Metro's website, or at www.gofundme.com/help-me-compete-in-world-out-games. METRO EDMONTON

SEASON FINALE

RICK MERCER REPORT

#rickmercerreport

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8

8:30 NT

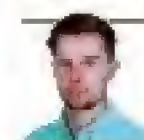


Andre Lessard thinks the shared-use path on the High Level Bridge is too narrow for cyclists and pedestrians. JEREMY SIMES/METRO

How to fix the High Level Bridge

INFRASTRUCTURE

Edmontonians weigh in as city eyes potential modifications



Jeremy Simes
Metro | Edmonton

Edmontonians have many ideas on what should be done with the High Level Bridge, as the city gets ready to study the future of the historic span.

The city recently put out a request to hire a consultant to do a structural feasibility assessment of the 104-year-old bridge, which will require rehabilitation in the next five to 10 years.

Assessors will also provide Edmonton with concepts planners can use for potential modifications, which include widening the sidewalks on the lower deck, and adding LRT tracks and two 4.2-metre paths on the upper deck.

"Now is the perfect time to assess the structural feasibility of various options to determine what may be possible," said city spokesperson Kelly FitzGibbon, in an email Monday.

The study comes after cyclists raised concerns over the current shared-use path, calling it too narrow ever since the city installed suicide prevention barriers at a cost of \$3 million.

Andre Lessard, who was jogging through the bridge Monday, said he would like to see wider paths.

"It's a safety issue," he said. "I cycle as well. With the (suicide barriers) sticking out, it doesn't feel safe. It's also tough to get around pedestrians sometimes when there's a lot of them."

Victoria Lieu, who was biking across the bridge Monday, said she hopes possible renovations to the bridge get done as soon as possible.

"A lot of people use this bridge, especially in the summer," she said. "So if the city is going to fix it, they should do it as quickly as they can because it

would cause quite a bit of congestion issues."

But the city doesn't entirely have the final say on potential changes to the High Level Bridge.

The province holds a right of way for the upper deck, which it could use for a high-speed rail line running between Calgary and Edmonton.

Though Edmonton planners weren't available for an interview Monday, Rob Gillard, the city's director of facility and capital planning, said in July the province can claim it, but the deal is under review.

"We have granted them the ability to, with 24 months notice, they can exercise their right to the bridge and use the upper deck for whatever purpose they want," he said.

Once the study is complete, the city can then review all options to modify the bridge. The study will also inform Edmonton's LRT concept planning study for a future "circulator," which is a proposed LRT line that would run through the downtown and Old Strathcona.

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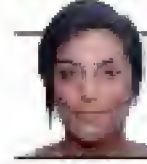


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Accessible rides for all

TRANSPORTATION

Pi Live service caters to people who use wheelchairs



Pushpa Balgobin
For Metro | Edmonton

A new company has entered the competitive ride-hailing market in Edmonton, but with a unique focus on accessibility.

Launched in February, Pi Live is an Edmonton fleet working to make efficient transportation available to people who use wheelchairs or have other mobility issues.

Rides can be booked through a smartphone app, and the seven vehicles they have so far are equipped with a ramp for easy access for people using wheelchairs.

Manager Osman Mohamed is a former taxi driver who said he used to see people with wheelchairs being "neglected" by conventional transportation services.



Pi Live is a new ride-hailing service in Edmonton that targets people with disabilities.

COURTESY PI LIVE

He said he's "pleased" to help give independence to an underserved demographic.

While taxi companies are required to have some accessible vehicles, and local rideshare company TappCar has said they're committed

to having vans that can take wheelchairs, critics say that many are still left waiting.

Bean Gill, co-founder of ReYu Paralysis Recover Centre, uses a wheelchair and said taxi drivers who didn't want to store her chair have refused

her service.

Even when taxi companies are willing to give her a ride, wait times for an accessible vehicle can be long, she said.

She added that having an affordable transportation option means independence.

“The lower the prices for transportation the more people will use the services.”

Bean Gill

"The majority of us don't have a large income or extra money to spend on transportation," she said.

"The lower the prices for transportation the more people will use the services, more people with disabilities will be living their lives with independence."

Pi Live's rates are slightly less than taxis, at \$1 per kilometre and \$0.42 per minute, compared to average taxi rates of \$1.48 per kilometre and \$0.50 per minute of travel time.

"I am proud to drive anyone to their destination that is needed," Mohamed said.

"This is something we see ourselves making changes to in the industry."

AVALANCHE DEATHS

Memorial fund set up for two Americans

Two Americans killed in an avalanche in Canada this month are being remembered as "young rising stars" by their colleagues at a prestigious Boston hospital.

Officials at Massachusetts General Hospital said Monday that memorial funds have been established in honour of Victor Fedorov and Lauren Zeitels and that memorial services are being planned.


The hospital said the 32-year-old internal medicine residents were "seasoned outdoor enthusiasts" who embodied the "devotion, compassion and brilliance that represent the best of medicine and humanity."

Zeitels grew up in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Fedorov was born in Moscow, Russia and grew up in Richmond, Virginia.

The two had been snowshoeing near Lake Louise in Alberta and were last seen around March 11.

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Game-changing decision

SPORTS

Hockey Canada to make smaller ice surfaces mandatory

Hockey Canada says it will make it mandatory that children getting their first introduction to the game play on reduced-size ice surfaces instead of full-sized rinks.

The organization which governs amateur hockey has been recommending half-ice, or cross-ice, for its initiation programs for five and six-year-olds for over three decades.

A number of provincial amateur hockey bodies already require rinks be partitioned into smaller surfaces for games for their youngest players.

But Paul Carson, Hockey Canada's vice-president of membership development, said there are still holdouts where beginners play their games on full-sized rinks.

"We know statistically when you're in a smaller playing area it increases the number



Kids play a game of shinny on a frozen pond on a cold Saturday afternoon. CHRIS TANOUYE PHOTO

of puck touches, it increases the number of battles for loose pucks, it increases the number of shots on goal, it increases the number of passes and pass receptions," said Carson as he explained how smaller ice surfaces improve skills development.

"We've coined the phrase, 'Decrease the space, increase the pace.' It does make all players better."

The mandatory policy will take effect for the 2017-2018 season.

Not everyone agrees reduced size is the best way to foster

skill. Some online forums and blogs argue there are kids who are ready for full ice and that it's wrong to hold them back. They argue it's important to learn icing and offsides.

The Saskatchewan Hockey Association, which recently mandated smaller surfaces for

beginners for the 2016-2017 season, acknowledged on its website that some parents may want full ice because they want their child to "play like professionals do" and experience "real hockey."

But the site also includes a link to a video showing adult hockey players on a rink with enlarged dimensions and giant nets to demonstrate what the experience of full-size ice looks like for kids.

Wayne Wong, an Edmonton dad who volunteers as a coach for initiation hockey, said many kids start the season just learning to balance on skates. They progress quickly to stopping and turning, he said, but games are played on a divided surface across the width of the rink.

Wong, whose own son is four and just started playing, said he used the word "games" loosely, in quotes. "I can't imagine having kids play the full ice if it's a game format," he continued. "Especially if they tried to make them go from one end to the other, it would be a lot of skating."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

OILSANDS

Suncor says it's on track

Oil production remains offline two weeks after a fire halted operations at the Syncrude oilsands mining complex in northern Alberta but its largest owner says it still expects to meet 2017 targets.

Suncor Energy Inc. said Monday it was still on track to meet its guidance issued in November of between 680,000 and 720,000 barrels of crude per day, in part because of strong results from its other oilsands and offshore assets. The company's forecast called for between 150,000 and 165,000 bpd this year from its 54 per cent stake in Syncrude.

Suncor said some of the impact of the unplanned outage will be offset by advancing an eight-week maintenance turnaround that was originally scheduled to begin next month.

The fire erupted on March 14 at the Mildred Lake oilsands upgrader after a pipeline began leaking near one of its two hydro-treating units. It burned for two days.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Premiers spar on budgets

ECONOMICS

Notley, Wall offer each other fiscal policy tips

Alberta Premier Rachel Notley and Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall continue to take jabs at one another over their provincial budgets.

Notley's government tabled a budget this month that relies on forecasted economic growth to reach balance in six years. It includes a \$10.3-billion deficit and \$71 billion in debt by 2020.

Wall's deficit budget of \$1.3 billion boosts the provincial sales tax and cuts everything from public-sector wages to funding for libraries. The goal is to whittle down the deficit to \$685 million by the end of the fiscal year and achieve balance in three years.

Notley was asked Monday whether there is anything in the Saskatchewan budget that she would never do and her response was: "Almost everything."



Alberta Premier Rachel Notley and Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall have traded barbs over their governments' respective economic policies after each tabled their own provincial budgets. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

She used Wall's five per cent cut to post-secondary education as an example of what she sees as short-term thinking that will pinch off economic growth.

On the weekend, Wall took

to Twitter to say he wasn't about to take budgeting advice from Notley and the Alberta NDP. He tweeted an editorial cartoon of Notley and a provincial debt that runs off

the charts.

"Premier Notley decided to give us some budgeting advice," he quipped. "Thanks, but no thanks."

Wall and Notley have been at

Premier Notley decided to give us some budgeting advice. Thanks, but no thanks.

Brad Wall

each other since the Saskatchewan budget was released last Wednesday. Notley responded to the document by saying: "What we've seen in Saskatchewan is what it looks like when the rubber hits the road."

On Friday, Wall urged people to look at the Alberta premier's record.

"Since she (Notley) was elected, their government has increased every tax, introduced a new tax, a multibillion-dollar carbon tax and have posted ... two \$10-billion deficits," Wall said.

"I'm about as interested in fiscal advice from the Alberta NDP as I would be in Twitter etiquette advice from (U.S. President) Donald Trump."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

Notley open to ending time change

Alberta Premier Rachel Notley says ending time change in Alberta is a good idea.

She says the only problem is deciding which way to switch.

The legislature is considering a private member's bill that would see Alberta end the biannual ritual.

NDP backbencher Thomas Dang's proposal calls for Alberta to be on central standard time all year instead of mountain time.

That means Alberta would be on the same time as Saskatchewan year round, one hour ahead of British Columbia in the summer and two hours ahead of B.C. in the winter.

Notley says she supports Dang's bill in principle, but the jury is still out on which time zone to go with.

"Do you do away with it? I am kind of fond of that idea. But then the question is: What one do you pick?" she said Monday.

"I think in principle it is a really good idea, but we've also heard from Albertans on both sides of the issue."

If the bill passes, it wouldn't take effect until November 2018.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Making room for recovery

WELLNESS

Province funds extra housing at addictions treatment site



Elizabeth Cameron
For Metro | Calgary

Hiding the addiction that was slowly destroying Chase Cronk's life was easier than admitting he had a problem.

Now 33, the Calgarian was pursuing a professional golfing career when his alcoholism came to a head.

"I guess ultimately, I had to allow my addiction to progress to a point where I could no longer hide it," Cronk said, speaking to media at the Fresh Start Recovery Centre.

A graduate of the facility's 12-16 week addictions program, Cronk knows the value of a stable place to call home during the recovery process.

"It's tough for us to put in the time, not only into recovery, but also reintegrating ourselves into society — with affordable hous-



Minister of Seniors and Housing Lori Sigurdson, left, and Premier Rachel Notley, center, look on as Chase Cronk shares his story at the Fresh Start Recovery Centre. ELIZABETH CAMERON/FOR METRO

ing, that takes the extra stress away from a financial perspective," Cronk said.

Premier Rachel Notley and Minister of Seniors and Hous-

ing Lori Sigurdson were at Fresh Start Monday to announce \$7 million in funding for the facility to build 24 new affordable housing units.

That translates into 46 additional beds for graduates of the addictions treatment program, doubling current capacity.

Because of the additional

“I don't have to be afraid that I can't accomplish what I need to accomplish to stay sober.
Chase Cronk

units, Cronk said he will be able to move into the second phase of his recovery — literally.

"I don't have to be afraid that I can't accomplish what I need to accomplish to stay sober," he said.

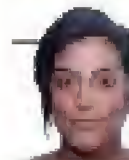
Currently, more than 100 people are waiting to enter a treatment program there.

"Recovery takes time, and in many cases, valuable resources such as safe, affordable, abstinence-based housing beyond treatment (which) are the difference makers between getting well and succeeding, or staying sick," said Stacey Petersen, executive director at Fresh Start.

"I can say today, as a result of a lot of hard work and a lot of good and bad days, I feel great about the direction my recovery is going in," said Cronk.

EDUCATION

U of A gets high marks in sports, nursing



Pushpa Balgobin
For Metro | Edmonton

The University of Alberta has ranked among the top 100 schools worldwide in over 25 subjects, according to the latest QS World University Rankings released earlier this month.

The university placed 10th in the world for sports-related subjects, which was a new subject area added this year.

"The faculty's recent development of Canada's first master of coaching degree, combined with new undergraduate majors in sport performance and sport coaching, tie research, teaching and practice together like few other institutions in the world," Kerry Mummery, dean of the Faculty of Physical Education said in a release.

The university also ranked 16th for nursing, 18th in engineering and mining and 44th in pharmacy.

QS ranked 1100 institutions in 46 subjects.

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Emissions target elusive

ENVIRONMENT CANADA

Report says we are on pace to miss reduction target for 2030

Environment Canada is projecting that, based on policies in place last November, the country was on pace to miss its reduction target for greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, pumping out at least 30 per cent more than promised that year.

The projections, which were compiled in February and published online this month, are not a forecast of how emissions will change in the coming years. The report describes the projections more as an educated guess based on policies in place as of Nov. 1, 2016.

The projections don't factor in technological and regulatory changes after that day, for example, and are "most appropriately viewed as a range of plausible outcomes," the report says.

The biggest development since Nov. 1 is the unveiling of the Pan-Canadian Framework



The Syncrude oilsands plant, north of Fort McMurray, Alta., in 2009. Environment Canada says oil prices and economic growth are some of the factors that will impact Canada's greenhouse gas emissions. MARK RALSTON/AFP/GETTY IMAGES FILE

on Clean Growth and Climate Change, a federal-provincial deal to cut emissions that was inked last December.

Erin Flanagan, director of federal policy for the Pembina Institute, said the report is nonetheless a "red flag," as it underlines how the government

must remain vigilant and committed to cutting emissions that contribute to climate change.

"It is a constant reminder that our job is not done," Flanagan said.

"Politicians have an unhelpful habit of announcing plans and thinking that the

announcement means they can transition to other priorities. We need to see constant engagement from the federal government, and from the provinces and territories."

According to the Environment Canada projections based on policies as of Nov. 1, Canada

“It is a constant reminder that our job is not done.”

Erin Flanagan

will emit between 697 megatonnes and 790 megatonnes of greenhouse gases in 2030, depending on a range of factors that include oil prices and the rate of economic growth.

Canada's goal under the Liberal government is to cut emissions to 523 megatonnes in 2030 — a reduction of 30 per cent below 2005 levels.

Mélanie Quesnel, a spokesperson for Environment and Climate Change Canada, said in an email Monday that the projections in the report don't include the accelerated phase-out of coal by 2030, which was announced in late November. She said the projections also only feature estimated reductions under existing provincial carbon pricing regimes in B.C., Alberta, Ontario and Quebec.

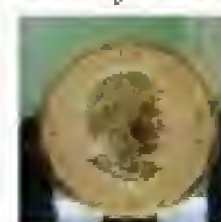
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

GERMANY

Gold coin pinched

A massive gold coin issued by the Royal Canadian Mint has been stolen from a museum in Germany.

Police in Berlin say thieves broke into the German capital's Bode Museum before dawn Monday and made off with the



The "Big Maple Leaf" coin.

100-kilogram gold coin worth millions of dollars.

The "Big Maple Leaf" coin, which is three centimetres thick with a diameter of 53 centimetres, has a portrait of the Queen on one side and maple leaves on the other.

The museum, which has one of the largest coin collections in the world, said on its website that coin has been on loan in its numismatic collection since 2010.

It was issued by the Royal Canadian Mint in 2007 and it is in the Guinness Book of Records for its purity of 999.99/1000 gold.

Royal Canadian Mint spokesman Alex Reeves says the coin has a face value of \$1 million, but by weight alone it would be worth almost \$4.5 million US at market prices. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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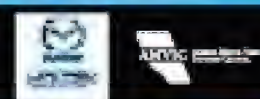
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Finance Minister Bill Morneau says the issue of taxation is secondary to making sure marijuana stays out of the hands of children and criminals. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Liberals urged to sell assets to private sector

A new report is urging the Trudeau Liberals to make its new, experimental infrastructure bank a centre for helping cities and provinces sell off existing assets, rather than just helping to build new infrastructure.

The C.D. Howe Institute says the Liberals, along with provinces, territories and cities, could raise between \$67-\$100 billion by selling off revenue-generating assets like airports that would be attractive to private sector investors.

The Liberals have been con-

sidering whether to sell off stakes in Canada's airports, Finance Minister Bill Morneau said last week, adding that it is part of an ongoing discussion around what assets the government should continue to own.

The paper says the Liberals should also consider allowing domestic or foreign investors to cover the full price for projects, absent public funding.

Benjamin Dachis, the institute's associate director of research and the author of

the paper, says the Liberals should also provide provincial and municipal governments with financial incentives to work with the proposed bank.

The bank would use \$35 billion in federal cash and financing to pull into four times that amount from the private sector, if all goes according to plan, to help pay for new projects.

"Government spending has its inevitable limits, and government ownership of much of Canada's major infrastruc-

ture is limiting the ability of governments to invest in the new infrastructure Canadians need," Dachis writes.

"A systematic policy in which governments seek to broaden the ownership of Canada's billions of dollars of government user-fee supported assets would address this problem. It would also open investment opportunities for institutional investors keen to invest in Canadian infrastructure."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pot tax still a sticky issue

MARIJUANA

Government remains so far unsure how to pull revenue

The Trudeau government is still wrestling with how to tax recreational pot, even as it indicates it's poised to introduce long-awaited legalization legislation next month in advance of April 20 — the "Weed Day" popularly known as 4/20.

Finance Minister Bill Morneau said Monday that the feds "haven't made enough progress" in terms of taxing marijuana and several other issues related to legalizing the drug.

The focus has instead been on making sure weed stays out of the hands of children and criminals, Morneau said during a news conference in Calgary.

"Those are our two key goals as we move forward," he said.

"The issue around taxation, any of those issues, are very subsidiary to those first two goals, and we've not yet gotten to conclusions on those sort of aspects at this time."

News of the pending legislation — the timing of which, media reports suggest, means

recreational pot would be fully legal by July 1, 2018 — pushed up share prices Monday for the country's large marijuana producers.

Shares of Canopy Growth Corp. closed 11 per cent higher after gaining \$1.10 to \$10.98 on the Toronto Stock Exchange. Aphria finished 8.39 per cent higher at \$6.72 per share, a gain of 52 cents.

Yet Morneau's comments suggest at least one key issue remains far from resolved, despite the fact multiple government sources confirmed Monday that the government plans to introduce the bill during the week of April 10.

And the timing has at least one critic suggesting the Liberal government is more interested in placating marijuana users, who famously gather around the world each April 20 — including on Parliament Hill — to indulge in their favourite strain and flout the law in jurisdictions where it's illegal.

"This is a totally arbitrary timeline," said Conservative health critic Colin Carrie.

"(Prime Minister Justin Trudeau) is more interested in pandering to the marijuana users than doing his job and looking after the health and safety of Canadians."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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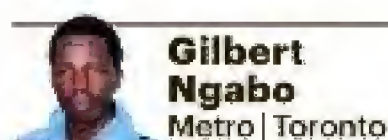
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The UN World Food Program warned the situation could mirror the 2011 crisis that killed about 260,000 in the Horn of Africa. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Just heartbreaking'

Drought and armed conflict have left much of Somalia grappling with starvation



Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

The story still gives Hassan Ibrahim nightmares.

Earlier this year, a woman and her three young children left Somalia's northeastern region of Garoowe, one of the areas hit hardest by the ongoing drought. They walked 10 days to Mogadishu, the capital city where many non-profit organizations have been assisting thousands of Somalis. By the time she reached it, all three of her children had starved to death on the way.

"Just heartbreaking," said Ibrahim, originally from northern Somalia but a resident of Canada for more than 20 years. "It's very shameful that people are dying of hunger in 2017. There's just too much wealth in the world, and this famine situation could have been easily prevented."

Somalia is one of four countries facing famine, a result of both long drought and the ongoing conflict with terrorist rebels Al Shabab. By the end of last month, more than 250,000 people had left their rural homes to join settlements in urban areas or cross the border into neighbouring countries.

The UN World Food Program, one of many groups providing assistance on the ground,



Members of the Somali Canadian Task Force on Famine Prevention in Somalia have teamed up with Islamic Relief Canada to raise funds that will help buy food. CONTRIBUTED

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Somali-Canadians across the country and many other NGOs are leading efforts to assist those affected by famine in Somalia:

Somali Canadian Task Force on Famine Prevention in Somalia: Formed last month as a response to the ongoing famine, the group has raised over \$300,000 through Islamic Relief Canada. More info at islamicreliefcanada.org

Horn of Africa Development Assistance: The Ottawa-based non-profit runs development projects in Somalia aimed at fighting poverty and building capacity. To get involved or donate, visit hada.ca

warned the current situation could mirror the 2011 crisis, when a full-blown famine in the Horn of Africa killed about 260,000 people.

Members of the Somali Canadian Task Force on Famine Prevention in Somalia have teamed

up with Islamic Relief Canada to raise funds that will help buy food supplies for people affected by famine.

But Ibrahim, 42, fears it could get worse, especially since signs of hunger are now spread all over the country.

ABOUT THIS SERIES

Metro is chronicling the story through the lens of immigrants from the affected countries, with a focus on how people can get involved.

Monday Vicky Mochama on how Canada can step up its interventions.

Tuesday Focus on Somalia, and how this could be worse than 2011.

Wednesday Yemen, and the role of war in the ongoing famine.

Thursday The situation in South Sudan, the world's youngest country.

Friday Nigeria, with views from diaspora members and a local expat

"People are losing 500 or 600 heads of camels and sheep and cows," he said, noting the country mostly subsists on the cattle industry. "This is the worst we've seen in our lifetime."

Ibrahim and other Somali Canadians are leading fundraising efforts across the country. Last month, the newly formed Task Force on Famine Prevention in Somalia sent a letter to Justin Trudeau asking him to do more.

"We just want the world to know they can help save lives," he said.

BY THE NUMBERS | SOMALIA



1 in 2

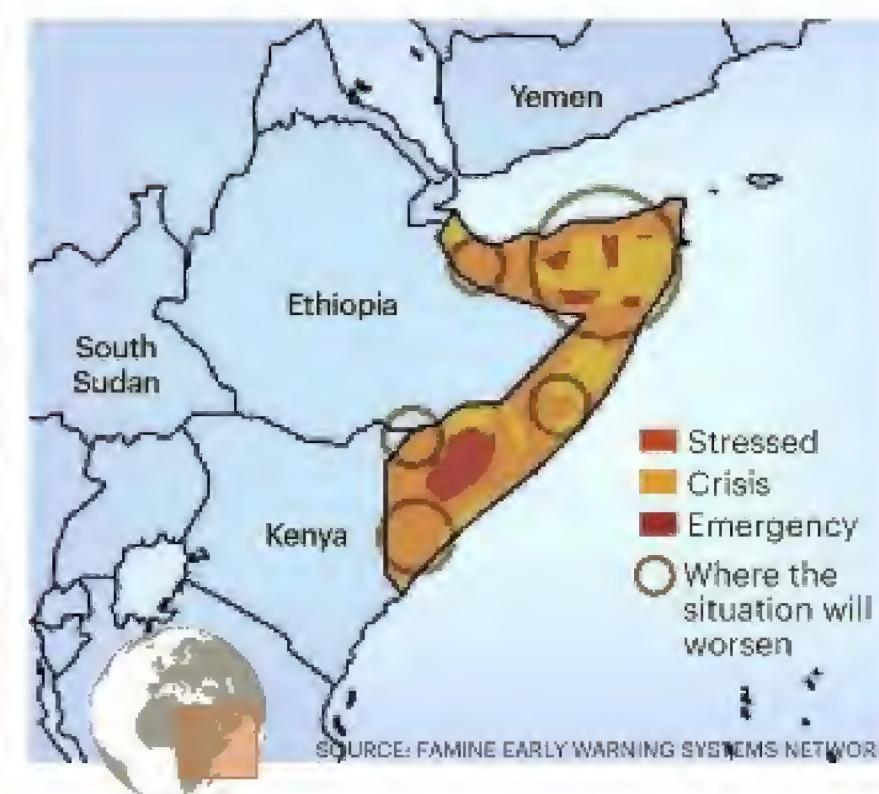
Somalia has a population of 12.3 million. Of its entire population, nearly **6.2 million people are food insecure**



363,000 children under five are acutely malnourished

\$283.7 million / **\$863.5 million**
Total funds raised to avert the famine crisis / Total funds needed

SOURCE: UN OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS



SOURCE: FAMINE EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS NETWORK

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Man's motive still a mystery

LONDON ATTACK

'No evidence' that Khalid Masood had link to Daesh

Police have found no evidence that the man who killed four people in London last week was associated with the Islamic State group or al-Qaida (a.k.a. Daesh), a senior British counterterrorism officer said Monday.

Deputy Assistant Commissioner Neil Basu of the Metropolitan Police said Westminster attacker Khalid Masood clearly had "an interest in jihad," but police have no indication he discussed his attack plans with others.

Basu, who also serves as Britain's senior national co-ordinator for counterterrorism policing, said last Wednesday's

attack — in which Masood ran down pedestrians on London's Westminster Bridge before fatally stabbing a policeman guarding Parliament — "appears to be based on low-sophistication, low-tech, low-cost techniques copied from other attacks."

Masood, 52, was shot dead by police after his deadly rampage, which police have revealed lasted just 82 seconds.

Police believe Masood — a Briton with convictions for violence who had spent several years in Saudi Arabia — acted alone, but are trying to determine whether others helped inspire or direct his actions.

Detectives on Monday continued to question a 30-year-old man arrested Sunday and a 58-year-old man arrested shortly after Wednesday's attack. Both were detained in the central England city of Birmingham, where Masood had recently lived. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HONG KONG ESCALATOR ACCIDENT SENDS PASSENGERS HURLING



VIDEO ON THE METRO APP

Video footage shot by witnesses showed that an upwards escalator at Mong Kok mall in Hong Kong suddenly reversed and went downward at an obviously higher speed, causing dozens of passengers to lose their balance and tumble down. "It was so sudden that people couldn't respond in time ... more than 10 people piled up near the base of the escalator," shopper Lau Kit-ying told the South China Morning Post. The escalator reportedly passed a safety inspection just last week. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE/SCRENGRAB

AIRLINE

Leggings allowed: United

United Airlines says regular-paying flyers are welcome to wear leggings, even though two teenage girls were barred by a gate agent from boarding a flight from Denver to Minneapolis because of their attire.

An airline spokesman said the girls were travelling Sunday under an employee travel pass that includes a dress code. The move sparked a wave of online criticism against United. Comedian Sarah Silverman tweeted that she would change her United flight bookings to other airlines for a tour next month.

Chicago-based United sought to clarify its stance in a post on its website late Sunday titled, "To our customers ... your leggings are welcome!"

The post says employees are "regularly reminded" about its dress code.

One of United's competitors, Delta, had some fun with the controversy Monday, tweeting: "Flying Delta means comfort. (That means you can wear your leggings.)" THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

POLITICS

Trump aims to roll back climate-change efforts

Moving forward with a campaign pledge to unravel former President Barack Obama's sweeping plan to curb global warming, U.S. President Donald Trump will sign

an executive order Tuesday that will suspend, rescind or flag for review more than a half-dozen measures in an effort to boost domestic energy production in the form of fossil fuels. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Each day until July 1, Metro will feature one reader's postcard in our editions across the country, on Metronews.ca and our 150postcards Instagram page. Get involved by sending us a photo of your favourite place in Canada along with 25 to 50 words about why that place is special to you. Email us at scene@metronews.ca or post to Instagram or Twitter with the hashtag #150postcards.

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A taste of Indigenous culture

FOOD

Chefs aim to raise awareness of traditional native foods

Canadian cuisine might include a mix of culinary traditions, but the food of one of the country's founding groups is largely missing. An emerging group of indigenous chefs and restaurateurs hope to change that.

Rich Francis, chef-owner of Seventh Fire Hospitality Group in Saskatoon, says he's "cooking for reconciliation" as he specializes in his interpretation of modern indigenous cuisine.

"Everything that's been taught in school is through a colonial lens. It's not our story. It's colonial books, so now I'm stepping into a time where we are telling our own stories through our own lens and our own vision."

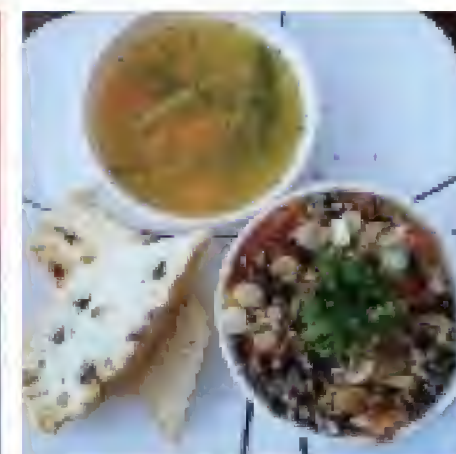
Francis, a member of the Tetlit Gwich'in and Tuscarora Nation and originally from Fort McPherson, N.W.T., was a finalist on Top Chef Canada and is opening a restaurant this summer.

Meanwhile, he's catering and conducting events like a recent Cooking for Reconciliation dinner series in Vancouver, where he focused on local indigenous foods such as halibut, razor clams, and stone fruits.

Lenore Newman, a B.C. professor with a Canada Research Chair in food security and environment, says the country is



Tina Ottereyes manages Tea-N-Bannock, where the menu reflects different First Nations groups. A sample of a meal shared on Instagram: soup, bannock and wild salad (top right). Another eatery, NishDish, serves Anishinaabe cuisine such as gluten-free corn cake with blueberry coulis (below right). RANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS; INSTAGRAM



seeing a resurgence in indigenous food "and a very timely one that needs to happen."

"I think there is still serious reparation to be made, though."

During work for her recent book, *Speaking in Cod Tongues: A Canadian Culinary Journey*, Newman learned of indigenous groups' huge role in helping early settlers survive.

"Then you enter this horrible period where indigenous cuisine was actively destroyed and used as a weapon. The biggest example is the clearing of the bison and how that was basically a genocide," says Newman.

"Out here on the West Coast the potlatch was banned. In residential schools, people were taken away from their indigenous foods. They were prevented from using them or talking about them."

"We have a lot of reckoning to do and some of that is culinary. And so what that meant was for a very long time you didn't hear about indigenous cuisine except very peripherally as kind of exotic."

Tina Ottereyes, who manages Tea-N-Bannock, agrees First Nations food is "very underrepresented" in Canada's restaurant

"You won't find any of this stuff in history books or cookbooks."

Rich Francis

sphere and is happy more eateries are opening.

"We're starting to share more of our culture and more of our food," says Ottereyes, from Wemindji Cree First Nation on James Bay in Quebec.

"When I grew up we hunted and we trapped and we fished. That was my culture, that was the food that I ate.... Each tribe has a different diet according to their area."

The menu at Tea-N-Bannock reflects traditional dishes from different tribes.

Hominy corn grown by a local farmer is the base for their Ojibwa corn soup, made through a labour-intensive process, while wild rice comes from First Nations people in northwestern Ontario.

Though meats like elk and bison are prepared tradition-

ally, they are farmed, not wild, because the product must be certified and inspected.

Francis says there should be some leniency when it comes to wild food.

"The regulations put in place by the government don't allow us to fully express ourselves," he explained.

Elsewhere in Toronto, NishDish, a cafe focused on Anishinaabe recipes, was slated to open this month in Toronto.

A smattering of colleges also offer indigenous culinary courses.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Intelligent is the new sexy for daters

ONLINE DATING

Self-identifying as sapiosexual is the latest way to stand out

According to his Tinder profile, Liam Nelson, 26, likes good music and good food. He dislikes bad music and bad food. He also considers himself sapiosexual.

To Nelson, who is straight and works as a recruiter in Toronto, this means not necessarily a woman's IQ but her emotional maturity and open-mindedness. He knows it's entirely subjective.

"It's no different from saying: 'I'm attracted to brunettes.' It's not some sort of strict rule. It's what we know about ourselves in terms of what tends to push our buttons in order to feel attraction," Nelson says.

"Sapiosexual" refers to those "sexually attracted to highly-intelligent people," according to Merriam-Webster. Derived from the Latin for wise, sapiosexuality is technically genderless.

While the concept isn't new, the term has become a common declaration on dating apps.



"Sapiosexual", the new term sweeping online dating sites, recognises the subjective attraction of intelligence. ISTOCK

Because it's 2017, there is, of course, an app for this. Newly-launched Sapio, designed for those "sick of superficial hookup apps," claims to have 50,000 new users in the last month.

"Sapiosexual" was defined as early as 2004 on Urban Dictionary as "one who finds intelligence the most sexually attractive feature."

The definition has been updated several times in the last few years to take on a more

cynical tone appropriate for the digital age. From 2016: "For many, defining oneself as sapiosexual is also a statement against the current status quo of hookup culture and superficiality, where looks are prized above all else."

Some critics say sapiosexuality is ableist and possibly discriminatory, as intelligence comes in many forms.

"The saying 'smart is sexy' is problematic because you're insinuating (probably uncon-

sciously) that those who aren't 'traditionally' smart are less attractive," wrote one commenter on a Facebook thread. The website Bustle called sapiosexuality "the worst dating trend" because it seems exclusionary.

Lindsay Gonder, 33, says she always swipes left on — ignores — self-proclaimed sapiosexuals. She doesn't like what the label implies: the pressure to perform "being smart" in order to appear attractive to someone else.

She also rejects the idea that intelligence and sex are mutually exclusive. "I can be intelligent and just want to hook up, and it's my decision," Gonder says.

Intelligence is an increasingly desirable trait in a partner, according to what's known as the American mate selection survey.

The most recent analysis, published in 2015 in the Journal of Family Issues, found men ranked "education and intelligence" fourth, up from 11th

in 1939. Women ranked intelligence fifth, up from ninth 80 years ago. (Both sexes rank mutual love and attraction first.)

"There's no blanket, universal definition of intelligence," says Florida-based Sapio co-founder Kristin Tynski.

And self-described sapiosexuals told us the attraction was less about having an advanced degree than someone's perspective or curiosity about the world.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

+ SUBJECTIVE

Some individuals are attracted to social or emotional intelligence; others to intelligence based on education or intellect, says Sapio co-founder Kristin Tynski.

Sapio users are encouraged to answer questions such as "What is the purpose of life?" or "What would your parents be most surprised to learn about you?" Users then search for response-based matches.

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Nelly Furtado is back, and as pro-mischievous as ever

MUSIC

Restless artist's latest album offers another left turn

Ben Raynor
scene@metronews.ca

Nelly Furtado has an admirable track record of doing whatever Nelly Furtado isn't supposed to be doing at any given moment.

She followed up a multi-platinum 2003 debut album, *Whoa, Nelly!*, with an earnestly multicultural big-budget folk-pop followup, *Folklore*, that contained nothing remotely resembling *I'm Like a Bird*. Then she released *Loose*, a sexy, au courant Timbaland-produced club record that had some fans worrying about a "sellout," but which would move 12 million copies worldwide on the back of monster singles like *Maneater* and *Promiscuous*.

The logical thing for a Portuguese-Canadian gal from Toronto (via Victoria) to do next? A Spanish-language album entitled *Mi Plan*, of course.

Now, after a five-year hiatus following 2012's *The Spirit Indestructible*, during which she sought escape from the music industry in pottery, playwriting classes and other art projects, the 38-year-old has teamed up with unlikely producer John Congleton — whose exhaustive resumé includes records by such indie-rock stalwarts as

Spoon, *the Water*



Victoria-born Nelly Furtado has a new album, *The Ride*, coming out at the end of March. CARLOS OSORIO/TORONTO STAR

on *Drugs* and *St. Vincent* — for *The Ride*, out on Friday.

A quirky, groove-oriented lark full of squelched-out basslines, rhythmic and melodic left turns, and even a hint of Krautrock here and there. *The Ride* is probably not the album you expected Nelly Furtado to make in 2017. But then again, she hasn't really given us much of a pattern upon which to base expectations.

"I think I'm mischievous," says Furtado, hanging out at the Palmerston Ave. location of rare-vinyl mecca *Cosmos Records*, where she sought added inspiration between albums by working shifts behind the counter. "I have a healthy sense of mischief, so I think doing the unexpected satisfies the Puck in me. It's like: 'A-ha! Let's cause some trouble!'"

"When people find out who produced (*The Ride*),

it's like: 'Oh, that's interesting? What were they doing in the studio together?' And I love that. I love making people think. I don't like to do the same thing twice... I'm always seeking to learn. So I always wondered quietly: 'What would it be like if I teamed up with an alternative producer?' Like, a real, traditional, alternative producer."

Furtado was introduced to Congleton via Annie "St. Vincent" Clark, whom she befriended a few years ago when playing a festival in Japan.

After hearing Congleton's work on 2014's acclaimed *St. Vincent*, Furtado slyly prevailed upon Clark to pass along his number and rang him up in Texas. And, although she will concede "I think he was suspicious" at first, the two hit it off immediately and decided what the hell, knowing full

well they were both taking a bit of a gamble on the project.

"We both had a lot to lose and a lot to gain, you know what I mean?" says Furtado. "We were both taking a risk by working with each other. But when both parties have some skin in the game, you both really want to make it work. You're there for a reason."

"And the reason just emerges. For him, he was hell-bent on me just showing my artistic side. But I had to prove myself to him as an artist first. But I think that's my whole thing: I like to show people what I can do."

Congleton was merciless, but in a good way. Furtado played him everything she'd demoed and "he didn't like any of it."

Eventually, the two realized they shared an enthusiasm for improvisation and the creative floodgates opened, with Congle-

ton throwing random beats around and Furtado unearthing some older songs and finding new life in them.

"All I wanted was a singular-sounding album and I think John provided that," she says.

"As a singer, actually, he also pushed me. I sing the lowest note I've ever recorded on *Dreams* and the highest note I've ever recorded on a song called *Live*. Octaves between them. On *Live*, I was like: 'Really, John, are you sure want the chorus in the higher octave? It's really high. I sound like a whiny wild animal.' And he said: 'Nope, I like it. Because it has urgency. It has urgency and you sound like what you're singing.'"

"And I was, like, 'Oh, yeah. You're right.' Really, only a really experienced and talented producer is able to pinpoint something like that."

Gossip DIGEST

MUSIC

Rotten support for President Trump

Punk legend

Johnny

Rotten has

voiced his

support

for

President

Donald

Trump.

The former Sex Pistols

front man told ITV's *Good*

Morning Britain that Trump

"terrifies politicians and

this is joy to behold." He

says he looks at Trump as "a

possible friend."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



TV

The Handmaid's Tale headed to Canadian TV

A highly-anticipated

adaptation of

Margaret

Atwood's

The

Handmaid's

Tale has

landed a

Canadian

broadcaster.

The first season of the

Toronto-shot drama,

starring Elisabeth Moss,

will debut on Bravo on April

30, and continue to air on

subsequent Sundays. The

entire first season will also

launch on Bell Media's video

streaming service CraveTV

this spring.

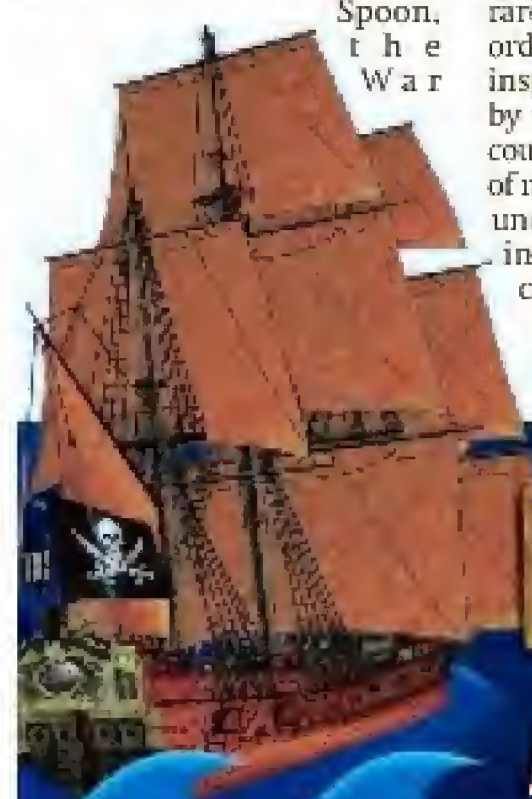
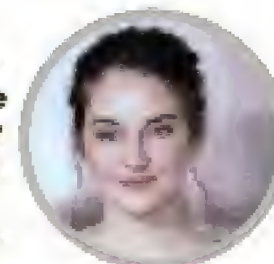
THE CANADIAN PRESS

FILM

Actress Shailene Woodley reaches deal in pipeline protest

Hollywood actress Shailene Woodley has reached a plea deal with no jail time over her involvement in protests against the Dakota Access oil pipeline in North Dakota. She agreed Friday to plead guilty to misdemeanor disorderly conduct.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

Final Girls season is brilliant

THE SHOW: *Girls*, Season 6, Episode 4 (HBO)
THE MOMENT: Desi's rehab

Desi (Ebon Moss-Bachrach), a musician, is in rehab. With a facilitator present, he confronts his ex-wife, Marnie (Allison Williams). "I've been thinking," Desi begins. He coughs. "Can I have some water?" Slowly, he pours water into a glass. More slowly, he drinks. With the glass half empty, he pauses. He drinks again.

Finally, he speaks. He tells her she made everything worse, and then when he was struggling, she walked away.

"I shut down?" she protests. "I gave up? Do you have any idea how hard this has been for me? I have bruises all over my body from the two-hour massages that I need to deal with the stress of your addiction."

I have loved this series from the beginning, but this final season is brilliant. Creator Lena Dunham, her writers, cast and crew are killing it in every direction, pushing each moment to its limit.



Marnie's (Allison Williams) narcissism is on full display in the final season of *Girls*. CONTRIBUTED

The criticism that's been levelled repeatedly at this show is that the characters are self-involved — as if Dunham's unaware of that; as if she's not deliberately parsing that behaviour. With this episode, she's throwing down: You think they're narcissists? I'll show you narcissism.

Just watch what Williams does with her body as Desi pours that water. Marnie simultaneously writhes with impatience yet believes that she's being supremely controlled and mature. She's feigning open-mindedness but is clearly just waiting for noises to stop coming out of Desi's

mouth so it can be her turn to speak. He's every bit as magnificently monstrous. It's narcissism as pure comedic gold.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

TV AND FILM

Jenkins switches to TV for next project

Moonlight director Barry Jenkins will follow up his Oscar-winning film with a drama series for Amazon based on Colson Whitehead's *The Underground Railroad*.

Amazon announced Monday that it will develop the TV series, with Jenkins writing and directing the adaptation of the 2016 National Book Award winner. Whitehead's *The Underground Railroad* is a part-historic, part-surrealistic novel about a slave who escapes on an actual railroad.

"Going back to *The Intuitionist*, Colson's writing has always defied convention, and *The Underground Railroad* is no different," said Jenkins in a statement. "It's a groundbreaking work that pays respect to our nation's history while using the form to explore it in a thoughtful and original way."

Jenkins has already been at work on the series, though how many episodes are planned was not announced. He is to write and direct.

Moonlight, which last month won best picture, was Jenkins' second film following

2008's well-regarded but little-seen *Medicine for Melancholy*. Made for just \$1.5 million, *Moonlight* has grossed more than \$56 million worldwide. It also won Academy Awards for Jenkins' screenplay, based on Tarell Alvin McCraney's play, and for Mahershala Ali's supporting performance.

The Underground Railroad will reunite much of the team behind *Moonlight*. Like that film, it will be produced by Adele Romanski and Brad Pitt's Plan B.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Barry Jenkins' next project? *The Underground Railroad*.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

TV AND FILM BRIEFS

Lucas' latest \$10m pledge

George Lucas has given another \$10 million to the University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts to fund the diversity program he helped establish.

Last fall, USC established a foundation in Lucas' name to support students from underrepresented communities who qualify for financial support. It was funded with an initial \$10 million gift from the George Lucas Family Foundation.

Michael Renov, vice dean of academy affairs, said the gift will help USC "recruit storytellers whose voices are underrepresented in cinematic media and whose inclusion benefits all of us."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Trump Horror Story?

The cast of *American Horror Story* is opening up about rumours of a season based on President Donald Trump.

Series creator Ryan Murphy told Bravo's Andy Cohen last month that the FX drama's seventh season would be focused on the election and hinted the possibility of a Trump character.

When quizzed on the matter, star Sarah Paulson told *The Associated Press* a Trump-themed season doesn't fit what the show has done so far, but "anything is possible if it's what the audience craves."

Kathy Bates says she's OK with it, as long as she's not cast as the president.

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HOZACK, William (Bill)
(1927 – 2016)

Please raise your glass... Somewhere at every festive occasion there comes to each of us a moment of thoughtfulness, of reflection, a moment of clarity as it were. It arrives without warning, but, the wise amongst us, do not let it pass, without a toast to the empty chairs around the big table. Call them absent family, friends, away without our leave... and say a prayer that we will meet again at the next bend in the road. Here is to our Dad and Grandpa - gone but not forgotten.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in memory of Bill to Second Chance Animal Rescue (SCARS) or an animal rescue of your choice.

A get together will be held Saturday, April 1, 2017 at the Glenwood Funeral Home, 52356 RR 232, Sherwood Park, AB, at 11:30am.

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Spoon changing the record with band's latest release

MUSIC

A chat with the Texan rockers' frontman Britt Daniel

Ben Raynor
scene@metronews.ca

This month, Spoon released its ninth album, *Hot Thoughts* — a slinky, synth-y effort that marks its return to esteemed indie label Matador Records for the first time since its 1996 debut, *Telephono*.

Torstar News Service sat down for a chat with affable bandleader Britt Daniel early Wednesday evening, a few hours before Spoon played one of the finest Spoon sets this writer has ever heard at SXSW festival in Austin. Here is most of that conversation, with a little edit here and there for clarity and concision.

The new record is definitely a bit of a change-up for you guys. Was that the plan? Sometimes we have plans, but we've never stuck to them. This time, we discussed what we didn't want to do. For instance, there was a song called *Own Your Mistake*, which is an acous-

tic ballad that I'd worked on early when we were working on the record... Everybody was like: "Cool song."

But then I was just like: "Yeah, but do we really want to have an acoustic ballad on this album?" And I don't think we did. That felt too backward-looking and a little too earthy or something. If anything, we wanted to make it more futuristic...

I know you've been dogged by the term "minimalist" for most of your career, but I kinda think this is Spoon's "maximalist" album.

I don't mind that term. "Minimal" or "maximal," I don't mind either of those. When people say "indie rock" I don't know what you're talking about. Please define that for me.

Was there anything in particular that led you in a synth-ier direction this time around?

Well, Alex (Fischel), our keyboard player — who was in *Divine Fits* with me — is really good... We lean on him to colour the



Spoon, led by singer/guitarist Britt Daniel, released their ninth album this month. GETTY IMAGES

songs, so that's probably a lot of what you're hearing.

Dave Fridmann seemed to me a bit of an odd choice of producer because he's known for "big" sound, but now it makes sense.

He did half of our last record (2014's *They Want My Soul*) and we had a great time and felt really good about working with him, so we kinda knew all along we wanted to do this

one with him, but it was a process getting him involved because he's so busy. It's a very admirable quality of his. For years, I was trying to get him to do this or that and he just didn't have time.

Spoon has always struck me as a precision instrument. Not a lot of room for error.

Well, we've made many errors. I made an error last night. I forgot which verse of "Hot Thoughts" we were in and I was away from the mic when I was supposed to be singing. So it happens. But the thing is, it doesn't have to ruin the show. I think people respond well to accidents as long as you acknowledge them. If you let it get to you and bum you out, then yeah, it's all over. And that's no good.

What brought you back to Matador Records after all these years?

They made a good argument. We stayed friends with those guys and Gerard, one of the founders, lives here in Austin so I would see him all the time. It basically boils down to they made a good argument why we should work with them on this record and I kinda just felt like, after looking at all the options, if we're going to have success, I'd rather have success with Matador than anyone else because I love these dudes and I have ultimate respect for what they've done as a label. They have integrity. They're not going to do it by taking the s— act

Gossip DIGEST

LEONARD COHEN
Feist in Juno Awards
Cohen tribute

Singer-songwriter Feist will perform a special tribute to the late Leonard Cohen at the Juno Awards on Sunday, playing an arrangement of one of Cohen's classic songs. Organizers have also announced more presenters for the show, including Buffy Sainte-Marie, Chantal Kreviazuk, Jim Cuddy and Sam Roberts. Feist will release her first studio album in nearly six years on April 2. THE CANADIAN PRESS



ADELE
Adele: 'I don't know if I will ever tour again'

Adele fans who didn't catch her on her current world tour may be out of luck in the future. The New Zealand Herald reports Adele told the audience during Sunday night's show in Auckland that "touring isn't something I'm good at" and she doesn't know if she "will ever tour again." The concert was Adele's last before she formally finishes the tour in her hometown of London. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



COLOMBIA
Khalifa angers Colombia with Escobar tomb visit

American rapper Wiz Khalifa is stirring controversy in the South American nation of Colombia, where he laid flowers and smoked what looked like a joint at the tomb of cocaine kingpin Pablo Escobar. The rapper is an avid marijuana smoker and used his Instagram account to post several photos of him smoking at Escobar's tomb in Medellin. He played a concert in the city last week. Colombians took to social media to express outrage. Medellin's Mayor Federico Gutierrez suggested that instead of paying homage to Escobar, the performer should've brought flowers to Escobar's thousands of victims killed during the height of Colombia's drug violence in the late 1980s. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Hockey's next frontier

NHL

NBA serves as a model in expanding a sport in China

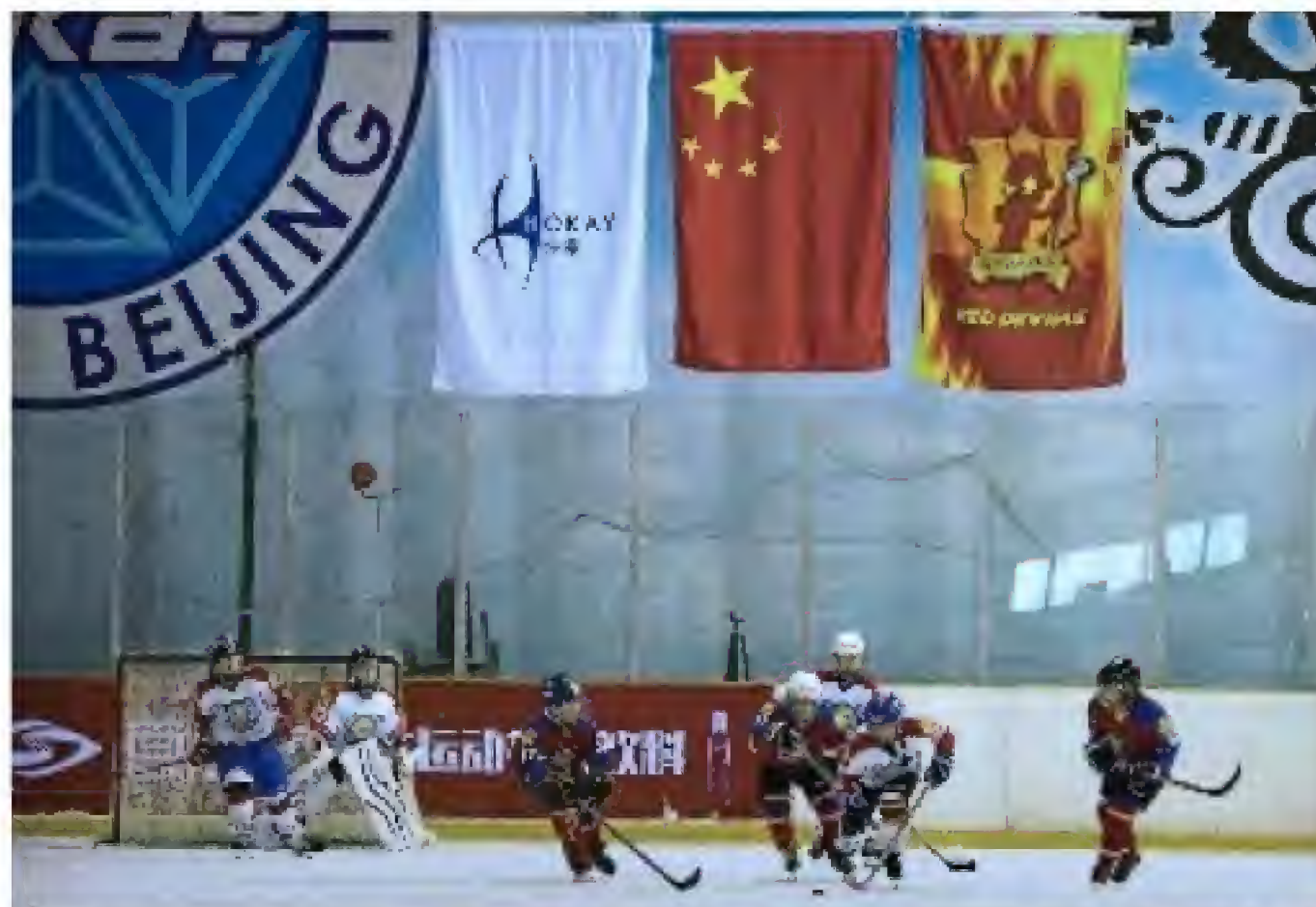
When Andong Song started playing hockey in China at age 6, he wore figure skates on his feet and had to use the straight parts of short-track speedskating rinks for practice.

His father brought back equipment from his travels one piece at a time, and his family moved to Canada a few years later so he could pursue a career in the sport. Song, the first Chinese player selected in the NHL draft, envisions a day when that sort of cross-global exodus is no longer necessary for kids growing up in China.

That could be coming soon with the NHL looking at China as hockey's next great frontier. With the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing, China is eager to step up its game and the league is intrigued by the potential of a new non-traditional market with 1.4 billion people that might take to hockey like it did basketball.

"It's a place that hasn't had that much of an opportunity to be introduced to what everybody acknowledges is a great game," commissioner Gary Bettman said. "Because of the size of the market and the fact that lots of sports haven't been developed there, it's a good opportunity to expand the sport even further."

This week, Bettman is expected to announce NHL pre-season games in China between the Los Angeles Kings and Vancouver Canucks, along with grassroots programs to build a hockey foundation where the NBA has laid one for decades. It's the first big step toward the NHL making inroads in China, whether or not players participate in the 2018 Olympics in



Players vie for the puck beneath a Chinese flag during a youth hockey tournament in Beijing in February. MARK SCHIEFELDEIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

neighbouring South Korea.

NHL Players' Association executive director Don Fehr said showcasing the NHL, running clinics and getting more broadcast coverage all figure into the long-term strategy. Even though Russia's expansive Kontinental Hockey League now has a team based in Beijing, NHL exhibition games — and potentially regular-season games as early as fall 2018 — will have a bigger impact.

"Even with the KHL there, they know it's not the best league," said Song, a Beijing native and sixth-round pick of the New York Islanders in 2015 who now plays for the Madison Capitols of the United States

Hockey League. "They know it's not the NHL."

According to the International Ice Hockey Federation, China only has 1,101 registered players and 154 indoor rinks. Despite having a quarter of China's population, the U.S. has 543,239 players and 1,800 indoor rinks.

By October, 14 different NBA teams will have played 24 pre-season games in greater China since 2004, so the NHL has some catching up to do. The Boston Bruins sent an envoy on a Chinese tour last summer that included players Matt Beleskey and David Pastrnak, and Washington Capitals owner Ted Leonsis recently said his team could be

next after hosting youth players from China in January.

"There will be about 200 new rinks being built in China and we would expect China being a very, very formidable force in the Olympics," said Leonsis, who called China the next great hockey market. "And also we'll see that China will be producing players and I would expect that we'll have NHL players that were born and trained, just like we've seen in the NBA, and China will be able to bring players here."

The NBA gained popularity in China in part due to Yao Ming, the first pick in the 2002 draft. The NHL is going into China hoping to develop homegrown stars. Chinese broadcaster and producer Longmou Li said 500-600 new families are joining the Beijing Hockey Association each year, which could mean churning out an NHL first-round pick every five to six years.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

“Because hockey is just so passionate a game, is so fast a game, it's so easy to get people to get involved.”

Chinese broadcaster and producer Longmou Li

PAY EQUITY

U.S. senators push for end to dispute

Fourteen U.S. senators wrote a letter to USA Hockey's executive director Monday over their concerns about the treatment of the women's national team.

Players have threatened to boycott the upcoming world championships over a wage dispute. The senators, all Democrats, urged David Ogren

to resolve the matter and ensure the team receives "equitable resources." They cited the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act.

USA Hockey's board of directors held a meeting Monday afternoon, but had not emerged with a resolution as of late Monday night. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

“

These elite athletes indeed deserve fairness and respect.

The senators' letter

SNOWBOARDING

McMorris suffers multiple injuries

An accident on a jump "well within his skill level" in British Columbia's backcountry has left Canadian snowboarding star Mark McMorris with serious injuries.

A medal favourite at next year's Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea, McMorris is recovering in a Vancouver hospital from a broken jaw, broken left arm, ruptured spleen, stable pelvic fracture, rib fractures and a collapsed left lung. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Mark McMorris GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

LeBron hurt in Spurs' dismantling of Cavaliers

Kawhi Leonard scored 25 points and the San Antonio Spurs dismantled the ailing Cleveland Cavaliers 103-74 on Monday night.

Cavs star LeBron James took an elbow to the base of his neck in the third quarter before leaving for the locker room. He didn't return to the game. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Monahan's four points lead Flames past Avalanche

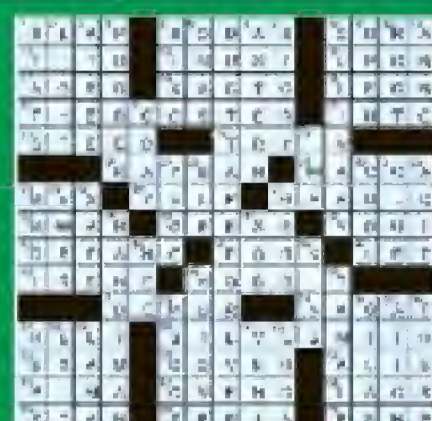
Sean Monahan scored his team-leading 26th goal and added three assists Monday as the Calgary Flames inched closer to clinching a playoff spot with a 4-2 win over the Colorado Avalanche.

Calgary can clinch a playoff spot against Los Angeles on Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

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Masters: Day may not play

GOLF

Prognosis of Aussie star's ill mother will be deciding factor

PGA Tour star Jason Day expects to arrive in Augusta, Georgia, on Friday to start practicing for the Masters, but said he could still pull out of the season's first major, depending on his mother's prognosis following surgery for lung cancer last week.

"Obviously, I'm still nervous because we're still waiting to see, if it has spread or not," said Day, who spoke Monday on a video

conference set up by organizers of the PGA Tour's Zurich Classic in late April. "From there, we have to kind of come up with a game plan whether to go chemo — a form of chemo radiation — or something else.

"It's still kind of a bit of an emotional time for me," added Day, whose father, Alvin, died of cancer when he was 12. "Obviously, I've been hanging out with my mom a bit and seeing her and she's recovering well. She's a tough lady, but it's hard because I look at her and she's on the pain killers and all that stuff, what she needs to do to recover. But I can't help but think of my dad when I see her in that situation."



Australia's Jason Day cried at a press conference after withdrawing from World Golf Championships-Dell Technologies Match Play due to his mother's illness. MATT HAZLETT/GETTY IMAGES

The world's third-ranked golfer revealed that his mother, Denning, has cancer after withdrawing from the Dell Technologies Match Play in Austin, Texas, last Wednesday. Day has said the

initial diagnosis came in Australia at the beginning of this year and that she had scheduled surgery in Columbus, Ohio, late last week.

Day said Monday that doctors deemed the surgery successful, and now the family awaits results of tests to see if cancer is present in Denning Day's lymph nodes.

"My mom told me not to worry about it," Day said. "It's hard to do that. It's easy to say but it's really, really difficult. So currently I'm scheduled to play Augusta but if things don't come back the way we want them, I don't know what's going to happen."

Day said he "hasn't touched

“

If things don't come back the way we want them, I don't know what's going to happen.

Jason Day on his mother's forthcoming prognosis.

a golf club at all" in the days since joining his mother in Ohio last week. "It's very, very difficult to even think about playing golf when a loved one is going through such a traumatic experience," Day said.

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42 Street 20 Ave, Behind All India Bazaar, Millwoods EDM

MAKE IT TODAY

Fresh Butternut Squash and Black Bean Quesadilla



PHOTO: MAYA VIVIANE

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

We've never met a lunchbox that doesn't love a quesadilla.

Ready in 1 hour

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 50 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients

- 5 cups butternut squash, peeled and cubed
- 1/2 tsp cumin
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- 1 tsp chili powder
- pinch of salt and pepper
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 1 x 14 oz can black beans, rinsed
- 2 cups grated cheddar cheese
- big handful of cilantro, chopped
- 8 tortillas

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. In a large bowl, toss squash with spices and olive oil until well coated.

2. Spread evenly on baking sheet and place in oven for 20 minutes.

3. Remove from oven and add beans to baking sheet. Give everything a stir and again, spread evenly on the sheet. Place back in oven for 20 minutes.

4. Drizzle a bit of oil in skillet over medium heat. Place a tortilla down and spread 1/4 of the squash and bean mixture to the edge of the tortilla. Sprinkle 1/2 cup of grated cheese and then a bit of cilantro. Top with another tortilla. Place a plate on top and press down firmly. Cook about five minutes until tortilla is golden and cheese is beginning to melt. Carefully flip quesadilla over and cook another five minutes on the other side. Repeat with the rest of your tortillas and squash.

5. Cut cooked quesadilla into quarters and serve with guacamole, sour cream and salsa.

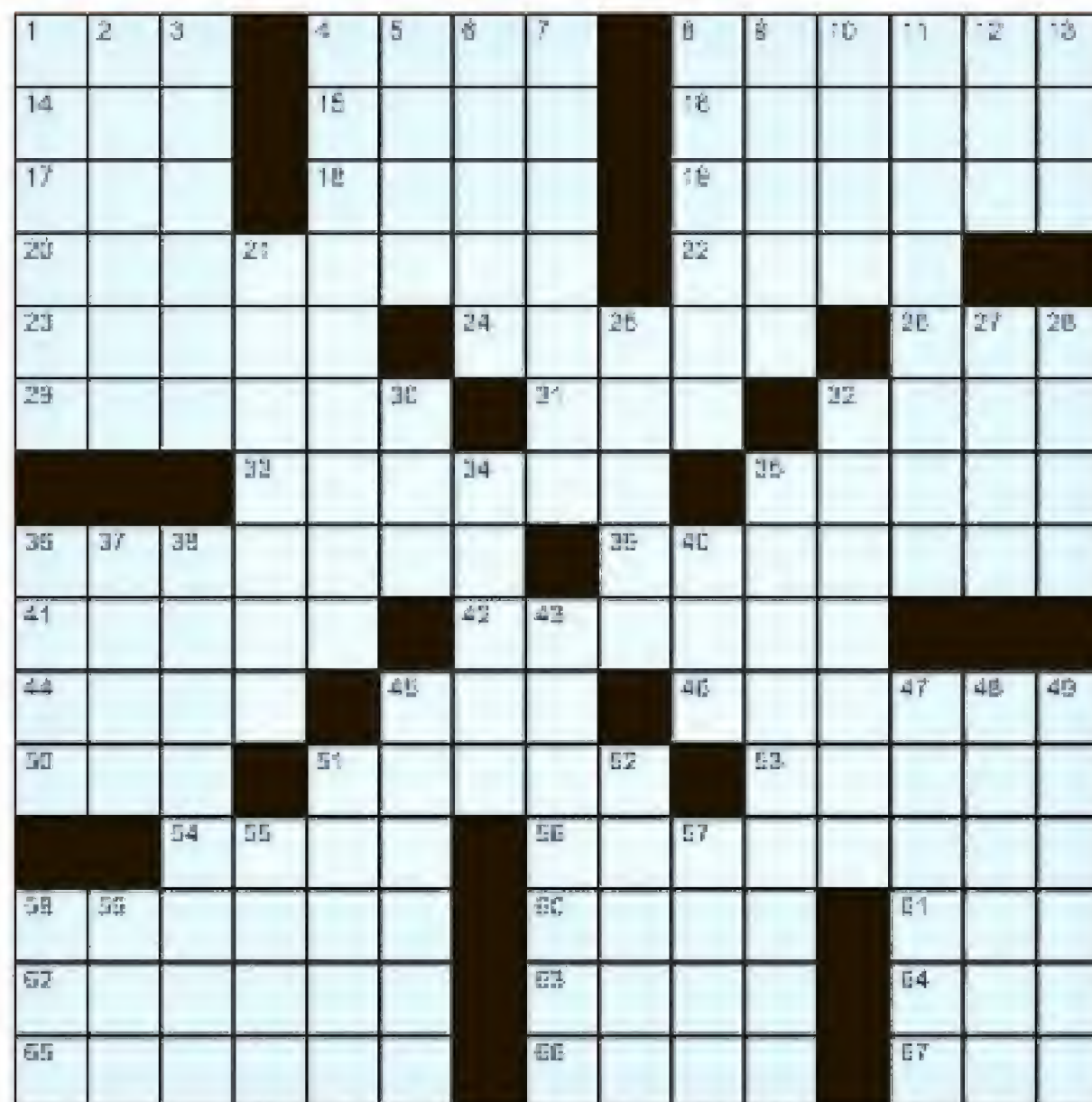
FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. "The _ Diary" (2011)
4. Montreal Canadiens, to fans
8. Talkative
14. With _ _ (How M49-Down's answer begins)
15. Not well-y
16. British actor Hugh of "House"
17. Canuck financial inst.
18. Bob _ (Former anchor on "Entertainment Tonight")
19. Broken, as promises
20. Alberta: Paddle River town northwest of Edmonton
22. Raised flatland
23. Nonpareil
24. Unstable, like a boat in rough waters
26. Dance style
29. Named/designated
31. Weep
32. Canadian contractor Mr. Holmes
33. "That very well may be...": 2 wds.
35. Group ruled by Odin
36. Ohio, The _ State
39. Component
41. "I'm with You" singer Ms. Lavigne
42. From Sea to Sea: A Mari Usque _ (Canada's motto)
44. No, in Germany
45. Grand _ (Wine classification)
46. Boss, head _
50. Suffix with



'Euclid'

51. Wine holders
53. Fender guitar, familiarly
54. "Star Trek II: The Wrath of _" (1982)
56. Northeastern Alberta town: 2 wds.
58. Soundless
60. Mike's "Wayne's

World" (1992)

- co-star
61. Handheld mobile device (acronym)
62. Exaggerate
63. 'Hypn' suffix
64. "I-i-c-k-y!"
65. Professor's preparation
66. Distribute the

divisions

67. Gr. that kidnapped Patty Hearst

DOWN

1. Bunny
2. Not yet fabricated
3. Pier anchorer
4. 'Gateway to the South' town in northern

Alberta: 2 wds.

5. Scooter-of-skin succulent
6. Lamb's utterance
7. Representatives, such as in business transactions
8. Like hand-fuls of soil
9. Mr. _ (Schemer)

- on classic sitcom "Green Acres")
10. Diving birds
11. Scholar's essay
12. Pencil part
13. Nevertheless
21. Baking/serving bowl
25. Preamble
27. Similar
28. 2in1 hair care brand
30. Susan of "L.A. Law"
32. Movie of 2000 for Australian actor Guy Pearce in which Vancouver-born actress Carrie-Anne Moss also starred
34. Approaches
35. Division of Canadian firm Bombardier Inc
36. Scourge
37. Iris's place
38. Sounds like walked-upon dry fallen leaves
40. "Well, _-di-dah."
43. Cambridge, for Prince William
45. Uri, for William Tell
47. "Sheesh!"
48. Baroque composer of the oratorio Messiah
49. ByWard Market city
51. _- _ attitude (Positive person's asset)
52. Writing tablet
55. His 'n' _
57. Work with needles and yarn
58. Pine _ (Cleaning product)
59. "You're All _ Got Tonight" by The Cars

* IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Put a lid on things today, because it's easy to get out of control since you are more emotional than usual. In fact, you are intense and a bit over the top! Easy does it.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Today you might do a slow boil about something behind the scenes, because you are quietly annoyed. The problem is that you cannot speak up. This is always frustrating.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Be patient with a friend today, or with someone who is a member of a group to which you belong. There's no point in fighting with someone. What's the upside?

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You are high-viz today and extremely focused on something related to bosses, parents or some kind of authority figure. Don't get carried away.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Avoid subjects like politics, religion and racial issues today, because these are too touchy. Your response to others will be too emotional.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Disputes about shared property, inheritances, wills and insurance issues might arise today. If so, you will have strong feelings about something. Just remember your objectives.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You will have to go more than halfway to get along with others today. Just accept this and be cooperative. Make your life easier.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Avoid arguments with co-workers today, because people are opinionated and pushy. Save your bright suggestions for another day. You'll be glad you did.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Parents might be challenged by hissy fits and meltdowns from their kids today. Be patient and loving. Likewise, romantic partners will have to be easygoing in order to avoid fights.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Your desire to make some improvements at home could be met with resistance. Don't be too pushy. In time, you will get your way. If you push too hard today, you only will increase opposition.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Today you are more emotional than usual, especially during your discussions with siblings and relatives. Try not to let your feelings get in the way of your common sense.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
If shopping today, you will be obsessed with buying something: "I have to have it!" Be careful. Don't do anything you will regret later.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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HALF PRICE & NOODLES

EVERY TUESDAY
RICE & NOODLES - 1/2 PRICE



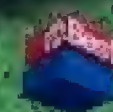
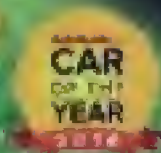
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